

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-40. (Canceled)

41. (new) A method for automatically configuring a new radio base station in a cellular communications network, comprising:

a radio network planning node generating a list of base stations with corresponding geographical location information and Internet Protocol (IP) addresses;

the radio network planning node communicating the list to a dynamic host configuration protocol (DHCP) server located in an operations and maintenance network;

the DHCP server storing the list;

the base station determining its geographical location;

the base station sending geographical location information to the DHCP server in a DHCP DISCOVER message;

the DHCP server receiving the DHCP DISCOVER message and using the geographical location information to determine from the stored list an IP address in the list for the base station;
and

the DHCP server sending a DHCP OFFER message to the base station with determined IP address.

42. (new) The method in claim 41, wherein the base station's geographical location information is determined using a GPS receiver.

43. (new) A method for automatically configuring a new radio base station in a cellular communications network, comprising:

a radio network planning node generating a list of base stations with corresponding geographical location information and domain names of base stations;

the radio network planning node communicating the list to a dynamic host configuration protocol (DHCP) server located in an operations and maintenance network;

the DHCP server storing the list;

the base station determining its geographical location;

the base station sending geographical location information to the DHCP server in a DHCP DISCOVER message;

the DHCP server receiving the DHCP DISCOVER message and using the geographical location information to determine from the stored list a domain name in the list for the base station;

the DHCP server sending the base station domain name to a domain name server;

the domain name server resolving the base station domain name into an IP address and sending the IP address to the DHCP server; and

the DHCP server receiving the IP addresses and sending a DHCP OFFER message to the base station with the IP address.

44. (new) The method in claim 42, wherein the base station's geographical location information is determined using a GPS receiver.

45. (new) Apparatus for automatically configuring a new radio base station in a cellular communications network, comprising:

a radio network planning node for generating a list of base stations with corresponding geographical location information and Internet Protocol (IP) addresses;

a dynamic host configuration protocol (DHCP) server located in an operations and maintenance network, where the radio network planning node is configured to communicate the list to the DHCP server and the DHCP server is configured to store the list; and

a base station configured to determine its geographical location and to send geographical location information to the DHCP server in a DHCP DISCOVER message,

wherein the DHCP server is configured to receive the DHCP DISCOVER message and use the geographical location information to determine from the stored list an IP address in the list for the base station, and

wherein the DHCP server is configured to send a DHCP OFFER message to the base station with determined IP address.

46. (new) The method in claim 45, wherein the base station is configured to determine the geographical location information using a GPS receiver.

47. (new) Apparatus for automatically configuring a new radio base station in a cellular communications network, comprising:

a radio network planning node for generating a list of base stations with corresponding geographical location information and domain names of base stations;

a dynamic host configuration protocol (DHCP) server located in an operations and maintenance network, where the radio network planning node is configured to communicate the list to the DHCP server and the DHCP server is configured to store the list; and

a base station configured to determine its geographical location and to send geographical location information to the DHCP server in a DHCP DISCOVER message,

wherein the DHCP server is configured to receive the DHCP DISCOVER message and use the geographical location information to determine from the stored list a domain name in the list for the base station,

wherein the DHCP server is configured to send the base station domain name to a domain name server,

wherein the domain name server is configured to resolve the base station domain name into an IP address and send the IP address to the DHCP server, and

wherein the DHCP server is configured to receive the IP address and send a DHCP OFFER message to the base station with the IP address.

48. (new) The method in claim 47, wherein the base station is configured to determine the geographical location information using a GPS receiver.